AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 09/921478

Filing Date: August 3, 2001

Title: AN IONICALLY CONDUCTIVE POLYMERIC COMPOSITION

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An ionically conductive polymeric composition comprising a

polymer and an ionic medium wherein the polymer has a molecular weight from about 100,000

to about 10,000,000 daltons and wherein the ionic medium is adapted for reversible reduction-

oxidation reactions and is not adhesive, and the composition has a conductive impedance value

between 600 ohm to 22500 ohm measured at 100 Hz to 100 kHz when used as a coating on an

implantable cardiac stimulus electrode.

2. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the polymer is polyethylene

oxide, polyethylene terpthalate, hydrogels, or polyacrylates.

3. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 2, wherein the polymer is polyethylene

oxide having a molecular weight of about 100,000-5,000,000 daltons.

4. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the ionic medium is NaCl or

another ionizable compound that does not alter a human recipient's body chemistry during the

period of time that an electrode coated with said composition is implanted.

5. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, further comprising at least one

steroid, inorganic filler, antithrombotic agent, anticoagulant agent, anti-infection agent, or

thrombolytic agent.

6-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the ionically conductive

polymeric composition comprises an electrically conductive ionic species.

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- 27. (Cancelled)
- 28. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, further comprising plasticizer salts.
- 29. (Cancelled)
- 30. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 5, wherein the inorganic filler is alumina, silica, or a combination thereof.
- 31-36. (Cancelled)
- 37. (Previously Presented) An ionically conductive polymeric composition comprising:
  - 5-10% by weight polyethylene oxide; and
  - 1-2% by weight NaCl,

wherein the composition has a conductive impedance value between 600 ohm to 22500 ohm measured at 100 Hz to 100 kHz.

- 38. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 37 further comprising a solvent in a 50:50 volume ratio alcohol:water.
- 39. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 37 wherein the polyethylene oxide has a molecular weight from about 100 kd to about 5,000 kd.
- 40. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 37 further comprising an inorganic filler.
- 41. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 40, wherein the inorganic filler is alumina or silica.
- 42. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 37 further comprising plasticizer salts.

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43-48. (Cancelled)